

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 4**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2004-014**  
**DATE: April 2, 2004 Time: 5:30 p.m.**

**TO:** Governor John Hoeven  
State Capitol  
Bismarck ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe Winter Weather – January 2004, excessive snow and high winds created drifts up to 20 feet, impeding snow removal efforts throughout the state. County emergency managers have reported township and county snow removal resources are not sufficient to move snow in a timely matter.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: No change from previous reports.
4. RESOURCES:  
  
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.  
  
STATE: No change from previous reports.  
  
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: On Friday April 2, Governor John Hoeven received notification that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has designated six North Dakota counties and one Indian reservation as meeting federal requirements to obtain federal funds for emergency snow removal assistance. The jurisdictions included in the snow emergency declaration include Dunn, McHenry, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer and Ward counties, as well as the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

The declaration will provide relief from economic and environmental impacts affecting public health and safety caused by record snowfall and extreme wind conditions for between January 23 and January 27. Hoeven's original request included Burke, Divide, Mountrail, Renville and Williams counties, which were not included in today's action. Hoeven said that at his request, the FEMA Region VIII director is sending a FEMA team to North Dakota early next week to further evaluate the five counties excluded from today's declaration. Assistance may yet be available for those jurisdictions. The federal snow emergency declaration is based on damage assessment reports from local officials submitted to FEMA by the North Dakota Division of

Emergency Management. The declaration will provide federal funds to reimburse overtime snow removal costs incurred by local governments and state agencies during a continuous 48-hour period. FEMA will cover up to 75 percent of all eligible costs.

On February 27, 2004, Senators Kent Conrad and Byron Dorgan along with Representative Earl Pomeroy sent a letter to the President in support of the request made by Governor Hoeven for emergency snow removal assistance.

In addition to local declarations reported previously, officials for the following counties and reservation issued emergency declarations: Mercer County, February 23, Dunn County, February 24, the Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Council, March 4, and the City of Wilton, March 4 and ordered the activation and utilization of their County and Tribal Emergency Operations Plans.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director